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Weekend, February 17-20, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

SIXERS AT THE BREAK

Recapping a dramatic first half and whose stock is up, down. 21-22

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PROTE$T

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We will not publish on Monday due to Presidents Day. See you on Tuesday!

TRUMP TAPS EX-LABOR BOARD MEMBER ACOSTA

1 President Donald Trump nominated former National Labor Relations Board member R. Alexander Acosta to serve as U.S. secretary of labor, one day after Trump's original choice withdrew. Acosta is dean of the Florida International University College of Law and is Trump's first Hispanic nominee. Acosta has had a decades-long public service career, serving in three presidentially appointed and Senate-confirmed

positions, and is expected to face a smooth confirmation process. "Mr. Acosta's nomination is off to a good start because he's already been confirmed by the Senate three times," said Sen. Lamar Alexander, who chairs the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions that will be vetting the nomination. REUTERS

ATTACK ON PAKISTANI SHRINE KILLS 72

2 A suicide bomber attacked a crowded Sufi shrine in southern Pakistan on Thursday, killing at least 72 people and wounding dozens more in the deadliest of a wave of bombings across the South Asian nation this week. A spokesman for medical charity Edhi said the attacker appeared to have targeted the women's wing of the shrine, and around 30 children accompanying their mothers were dead. Islamic State, the Middle East-based militant group which has a small but increasingly prominent presence in Pakistan, claimed responsibility for the attack, the group's affiliated news agency AMAQ reported. Senior police officer Shabbir Sethar told Reuters from a local hospital that the death toll was likely to rise. REUTERS

THIRD SUSPECT ARRESTED IN KIM JONG NAM MURDER

3 Malaysian police made a third arrest in their hunt for the people involved in the murder of the estranged half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. The third person, whose nationality was not disclosed, was the friend of an Indonesian woman who was detained earlier in the day in connection with the killing of Kim Jong Nam at the airport in the Malaysian capital on

Monday, police said. "He was detained to facilitate investigations as he is the boyfriend of the second suspect," said Abu Samah Mat, the police chief in Selangor state, told Reuters. REUTERS

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

'DAY WITHOUT IMMIGRANTS'

5 A business is closed as Latino immigrants across Philadelphia skip work on Thursday as part of a "Day Without Immigrants" campaign in Philadelphia. Many businesses are closed in hopes of showing their economic power and protesting Donald Trump's immigration policies. GETTY IMAGES

MIDNIGHT 'STAR WARS' EVENT TO UNVEIL TOYS

4 Walt Disney Co. and major retailers will release the galaxy's newest "Star Wars" toys at a Sept. 1 midnight event ahead of the holiday debut of the next film in the saga, "The Last Jedi," company executives told Reuters. The marketing push called "Force Friday II" is a sequel to an event Disney used to build buzz for merchandise tied to the 2015 movie "The Force Awakens." "Star Wars" products were a big contributor to the financial success of the series reboot. BB-8 droids, lightsabers and other playthings made "Star Wars" the U.S. toy industry's top-selling property for 2015 and 2016, with $1.5 billion in sales over the two years, research firm NPD said. REUTERS

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NIKKI MASCALI, WEB PRODUCER

It's no surprise that big-city living is going to cost you, but did you know that, according to online realtor Nested, three U.S. cities have the most expensive rents in the world? Find out if your city made the list by visiting **metro.us/home.**

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FORMAN MILLS

Protesters defend right to march despite cost to city

The bulk of the money spent on policing protests covers the overtime pay for the officers assigned to the demonstrations.

HAYDEN MITMAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Policing protests has cost Philadelphia millions of dollars. GETTY IMAGES

Anti-Trump protests have cost Philadelphia $3 million, according to estimates, but organizers of the demonstrations argue that failing to voice opposition to the new president's policies will result in costly consequences for the city.

Since Republican Donald Trump was inaugurated as the country's 45th president, protesters have frequently taken to the streets. The Women's March of Philadelphia drew about 50,000 people. Thousands marched weeks ago to protest Trump's immigration bans. Rallies occur nearly every weekend.

Policing the protests has cost the city roughly $3 million, of which more than $2.8 million was related to overtime pay for the officers.

City spokesman Mike Dunn said in a statement that it is too soon to know just what impact these costs could have on the city budget.

"Unexpected costs in any department are constantly evaluated during a fiscal year," he wrote in an email to Metro. "It is too soon to say if we need to make any adjustments for this."

Skylar Harris, an organizer with The People United USA, said the cost of policing protests likely pales in comparison to "the cost of staying silent."

"The cost of enforcement and the risk of liability is a real issue,"
Skylar Harris

She added that changes to the country's immigration policies along with ICE investigations and the follow-up legal battles that would likely ensue would likely cost the government much more than simply continuing to support sanctuary cities as they do now.

"The cost of enforcement and the risk of liability is a real issue," she said. "And if Harrisburg has a plan to cough up the extra funds for additional police and lawsuits, I have yet to hear it."

Protest organizers emphasized that the costs of policing marches and rallies won't alter plans for future demonstrations against the policies of the Trump administration.

"Working-class Philadelphians protesting Trump's racist policies did not ask for [$3 million in] police protection," wrote organizer Mike Hess, in sharing a statement from Socialist Alternative Philly. "Philadelphia should have community control of police so that public safety spending can be allocated democratically. In the meantime, that money would be better spent on Philly's decaying public schools,"

Despite the cost of policing protests, the city plans no changes in the way it handles them, the city spokesman said.

"We're not going to speculate on the extent of future protests," Dunn said. "But, we are prepared to do whatever it takes to protect the safety of our citizens, including those who are exercising their right to free speech."

Protesters gathered at Thomas Paine Plaza on Thursday in Center City to rally in support of a "Day Without Immigrants." WORKERS WORLD PARTY/FACEBOOK

Philly restaurants close for #DayWithoutImmigrant

A small group of immigrants gathered in Thomas Paine Plaza in front of the "Government of the People" statue Thursday afternoon, clutching American flags. They would normally have been at work.

Like these workers, many others decided to stay home Thursday as part of the "Day Without Immigrants" protest, a nationwide strike by immigrant workers and their families aimed at highlighting their contributions to daily life in the U.S.

At least two dozen restaurants across Philadelphia shuttered Thursday in solidarity with the movement.

Others opened with limited menus, promising to support workers and pay wages of those who participated in the protest. They also said they would donate a portion of proceeds to immigrant-advocacy organizations.

Tria and Tria Taproom opened, but only served wine, cheese and beer, because it cannot open its kitchens without its entire staff.

"We chose to open today to raise money in support of all of our staff members. We will donate $1 from every wine, cheese and beer that we sell today to the Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizenship," the restaurant said in a statement.

Similar closures and protests took place in New York City, Washington, D.C, Boston and other cities across the country.

The strike is a response to anti-immigration policies and proposals by President Donald Trump's administration, including the construction of a border wall between the United States and Mexico and the travel ban on non-resident citizens from seven predominantly Muslim nations.

"Without us and without our contribution, this country is paralyzed," fliers being circulated in advance of the protest said.

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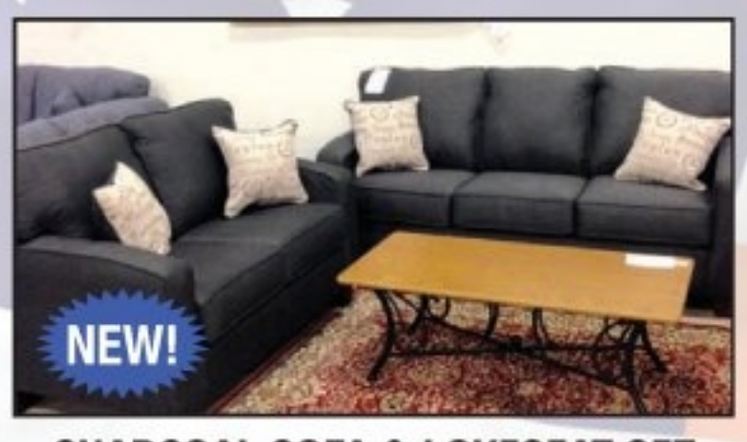

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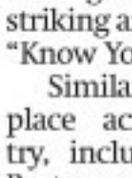
Hundreds of New York City high school students walk out of class to join a protest against President Donald Trump's immigration policies. GETTY IMAGES

Nationwide 'General Strike' urges workers to walk off their jobs

An activist coalition is mobilizing more than 100 protests today



AMANDA MIKELBERG
@MetroNewYork
amanda.mikelberg@metro.us

Another day, another nationwide day of protest.

On Friday, more than 100 coordinated demonstrations will take place, including several in New York City, calling on workers and activists to walk off their jobs.

The "National General Strike" protests are planned in cities across the country under the banner of Strike4Democracy, a loose coalition of labor and activist groups intending to mobilize the American workforce to assert its power in politics.

In New York, a rally will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. in Washington Square Park. Anyone able to attend without losing their job is urged to take part. It will coincide with a few other events at different locations, including a meeting to discuss the legal ramifications of striking and another titled "Know Your Rights."

Similar events will take place across the country, including several in Boston and Philadelphia.

The protests come one day after the nationwide "Day Without Immigrants," which encouraged immigrants and others to stay home to show the impact they have on daily life in the U.S. On Feb. 2, many Yemeni bodega owners in New York City shuttered their stores for several hours to make the same point.

While Friday's protest is largely an appeal to American workers to assert their rights, the previous two demonstrations were in direct opposition to President Donald Trump's recent executive order to ban people from seven mostly Muslim nations from entering the U.S. and his desire to build a wall between the U.S. and Mexico.

The organizer of the Washington Square Park demonstration, Andrew Thornbrooke, said the purpose of this "first-wave" strike is to bring together and connect workers. That, he said, will organize an effective, ongoing movement to disrupt the economy. The overarching theme is to "push back against assaults on democratic principles," he said.

"A huge part of it is that people are realizing all the new administration really understands is economic and financial power. And as workers, we have the power to disrupt the economic force that's driving the administration."

Tens of thousands expressed interest in joining Friday's general strike across the nation in some manner on Facebook pages. About 5,000 people RSVP'd to the New York rally.

Michelle Rodino-Colocino, a communications professor at Penn State University and one of Strike4Democracy's national organizers, told Metro, "We need to move the ball down the field.

"We have a rich history of general strike in this country, but we want something more massive, maybe it will send a message or make a change," she said.

"We all have different reasons for wanting to strike on Friday, and some are thinking beyond Donald Trump to the system that gave birth to Donald Trump, that let him be the winner of the election," she said. "We need to make this a movement, not a moment."

Meg Jacobs, a professor of U.S. history at Columbia, said that the notion of Americans taking to the streets to influence the government is not new.

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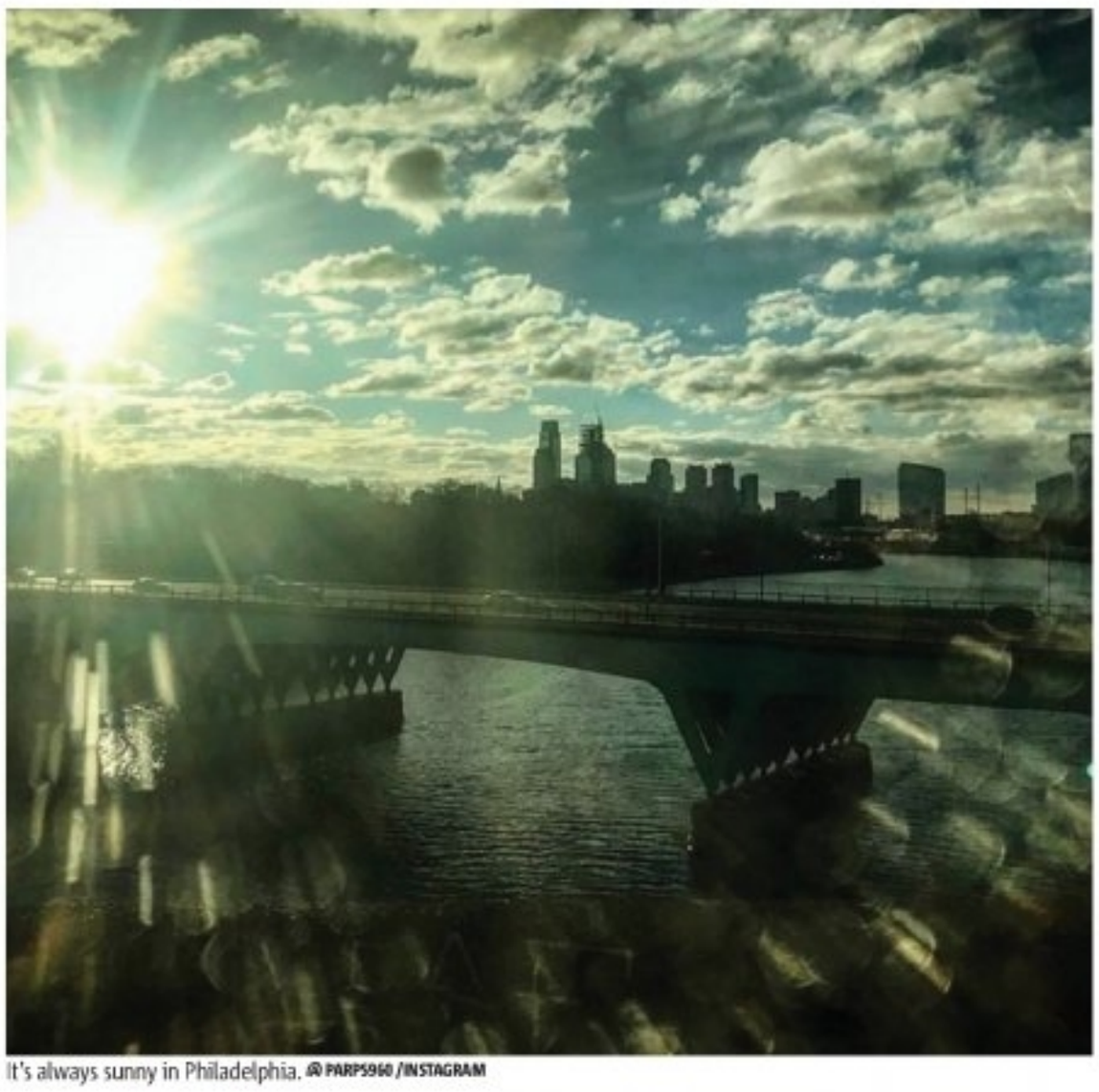
We want your pics!

Send Metro your photos to be featured in next Friday's issue. Post your best local photos to Instagram or Twitter using the hashtag #metropicsphilly to not only see them in our paper, but also on metro.us and our social media pages.



It's always sunny in Philadelphia. @ PARP5960 /INSTAGRAM

Philly schools will receive up to $2.5M in annual tax revenue from Uber, Lyft

Philadelphia schools superintendent William Hite. METRO FILE PHOTO

The Philadelphia school system has received an injection of cash from an unlikely source: millennials who cruise to their Tinder dates using the ride-hailing apps Uber and Lyft.

Well, the money isn't all from millennials.

The $350,000 the School District of Philadelphia received from Uber and Lyft on Thursday was the first installment of a tax levied on the ride-hailing powerhouses. The fee was written into the legislation that approved their use in the city. The tax would also apply to any similar ride-hailing company that is established.

Moving forward, the tax payments will be made quarterly and are projected to bring in an additional $2 million to $2.5 million for the general operating fund of Philly's chronically cash-strapped schools, officials said.

"In just a short time, revenue has been generated that will directly benefit our schools," state Sen. Vincent Hughes. "This funding is expected to continue to grow as ride-share companies become a more popular transportation choice for consumers, and that's good news for our schoolchildren."

The tax on Uber and Lyft and other so-called "ride-hailing" apps was part of a long-sought compromise in Harrisburg.

This first payment represents tax revenues earned during a 90-day "truce" struck over the summer that temporarily legalized the apps.

Under the law, which was approved in October, Philadelphia schools will receive two-thirds of a 1.4 percent tax on revenue Uber, Lyft and other ride-hailing app generate. The remaining one third goes to the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

The School District is expecting to receive another $411,000 from the two companies on revenue they earned from Nov. 4 to the end of 2016. SAM NEWHOUSE

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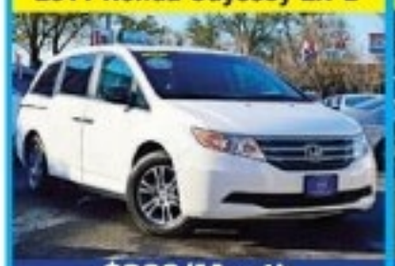

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France says US position on Middle East peace 'confused and worrying'

France considers the U.S. position on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict "confused and worrying," its foreign minister said on Thursday, reacting to President Donald Trump's dropping of America's commitment to a two-state solution.

Jean-Marc Ayrault met Secretary of State Rex Tillerson at a G20 meeting of foreign ministers in Bonn where, he said, he got some reassurance about Washington's stance on Russia, but little on the Middle East.

"I found that there was a bit more precision [on foreign policy] even if I found that on the Israeli-Palestinian dossier it was very confused and worrying," Ayrault said of his meeting.

"I wanted to remind him after the meeting between Donald Trump and [Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu that in France's view there are no other options other than the perspective of a two-state solution and that the other option which Mr Tillerson brought up was not realistic, fair or balanced."

He did not specify what other option Tillerson had proposed. At a news conference in Washington with Netanyahu on Wednesday, Trump said: "I am looking at two-state, and one-state, and I like the one that both parties like."

On Russia, Ayrault said he was happy to hear Tillerson say that sanctions on Russia over its actions in Ukraine would only be lifted if there was progress on the Minsk agreement to end fighting in east Ukraine.

"With Russia we have some serious points of disagreement and they have to be put on the table. It's not by making friendly statements that problems will be resolved," Ayrault told reporters. Tillerson remained "quite general" on the subject, he said.

Having just returned from Tehran, Ayrault said he was concerned by the new administration's calls to review from scratch the agreement between major powers and Iran over its nuclear program.

French Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault GETTY IMAGES

"The deal must be completely respected by Iran, but it is out of the question to open up a new construction site for an agreement that was reached in difficulty. I sense that there was a difference of opinion or at least question marks," he said.

He said the real debate on Iran now was not the nuclear deal, but its "interference" in the region, especially Syria and Iraq.

> *"Between the campaign speech, the tweets and what I heard from Tillerson, it's the start of clarification."*
>
> Tillerson

When asked whether Tillerson had clarified the U.S. position on Syrian peace negotiations and whether it still backed U.N. efforts, Ayrault said it appeared so, but that more talks would take place on Friday. "Between the campaign speech, the tweets and what I heard from Tillerson, it's the start of clarification," Ayrault said, referring to the administration's foreign policy. REUTERS

FBI

South Carolina white supremacist dreamed of Roof-style attack

A white supremacist in South Carolina dreamed of carrying out an attack in the style of church massacre shooter Dylann Roof but was arrested after he illegally bought a gun from an undercover FBI agent, authorities said.

Benjamin McDowell, 29, told the undercover agent he had not planned any specific targets or dates for an attack but glorified Roof during conversation and on Facebook, according to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit.

"I seen what Dylann Roof did, and in my heart I reckon I got a little bit of hatred. ... I want to do that," McDowell told an undercover FBI agent in January. He said he fantasized about conducting a large-scale attack and writing out the words "In the spirit of Dylann Roof."

A representative for the Federal Public Defenders, who will represent McDowell, declined to comment.

Roof was sentenced to death in January after being convicted of crimes stemming from the massacre of a Bible study group at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston on June 17, 2015, which left nine people dead. REUTERS

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Amid controversy, Trump says his campaign aides had no contact with Russia

Trump dismissed the controversy about the relationship between his aides and Moscow as a "scam" and "a ruse" perpetrated by a hostile news media.

President Donald Trump dismissed media reports that his presidential campaign team had contacts with Russian intelligence officials, saying Thursday that he was not aware of any member of his team having been in touch with Russia ahead of the November election.

As his administration grapples with a growing controversy about the relationship between his aides and Moscow, Trump also said he had not directed his former national security adviser, Michael Flynn, to talk to Russia's ambassador about U.S. sanctions before taking office.

Trump said he had asked the Justice Department to look into the leaks of "classified information that was given illegally" to journalists regarding the relationship between his aides and Russia.

"The leaks are absolutely real. The news is fake," Trump said.

He also said he did not think that Russian President Vladimir Putin was taking actions that would test him early in his term in office.

Trump, who took office on Jan. 20 and has voiced supported for improved ties with Russia, added that he personally had no business deals in that country.

The New York Times reported Tuesday that phone call records and intercepted calls showed members of Trump's presidential campaign and other Trump associates had repeated contacts with senior Russian intelligence officials in the year before the Nov. 8 election in which Trump defeated Democrat Hillary Clinton.

Pressed by reporters about whether he was aware if any member of his presidential campaign team had contacts with Russia before the election, the Republican president said, "Nobody that I know of."

Trump asked for and received Flynn's resignation on Monday after disclosures that the senior aide had discussed U.S. sanctions imposed on Russia by the Obama administration with the Russian ambassador to the United States before Trump took office, and that Flynn later misled Vice President Mike Pence about the conversations.

"You know, first everybody got excited because they thought he did something wrong. After they thought about it, it turned out he was just doing his job," Trump said of Flynn regarding the discussion with the Russian ambassador.

"No, I didn't direct him, but I would have directed him if he didn't do it. OK?" Trump said, who said the problem was Flynn's having misled Pence.

Trump, a wealthy New York real estate developer with global business interests, also portrayed himself as having no ties to Russia. REUTERS

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"I can tell you, speaking for myself, I own nothing in Russia. I have no loans in Russia. I don't have any deals in Russia."

Trump

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Source: Trump's choice for national security adviser has turned down offer

Two sources familiar with the decision said retired Vice Admiral Robert Harward turned down the job in part because he wanted to bring in his own team.

President Donald Trump's choice for national security adviser, retired Vice Admiral Robert Harward, has turned down the offer, sources familiar with Harward's decision said on Thursday.

Harward was offered the job after Michael Flynn was fired by Trump on Monday for misleading Vice President Mike Pence over his conversations with Russia's ambassador to the United States.

That put him at odds with Trump, who had told Flynn's deputy, K.T. McFarland, that she could stay.

Trump appeared to refer to Harward earlier in the day at a presidential news conference, saying, "I have somebody that I think will be outstanding for the position."

The president also made clear why he asked Flynn to resign on Monday, saying it was because the retired general had not been completely truthful with Pence about his conversations with the Russian ambassador to the United States, Sergei Kislyak.

"The thing is, he didn't tell our vice president properly, and then he said he didn't remember. So either way, it wasn't very satisfactory to me," Trump said. REUTERS

Retired Vice Admiral Robert Harward
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NJ judge again backs 'Bridgegate' complaint against Gov. Christie

A New Jersey judge has ruled for the second time that a citizen's criminal complaint against Gov. Chris Christie over the "Bridgegate" scandal can move forward.

At a hearing on Thursday, Judge Roy McGeady, who oversees municipal courts in Bergen County, found probable cause for the official misconduct complaint filed by activist Bill Brennan, a retired firefighter who is running for governor this year.

Brennan, a Democrat, has accused Christie, a Republican, of knowing about a plot to close lanes at the George Washington Bridge in 2013 intended to punish a local mayor for failing to endorse Christie's re-election bid.

Despite McGeady's ruling, however, it was not clear how the case would proceed.

Gov. Chris Christie GETTY IMAGES

Typically, a citizen's complaint backed by a probable cause finding is referred to county prosecutors, who decide whether enough evidence exists to support charges. The Bergen County prosecutor's office has already said it does not intend to pursue a case.

In January, a higher-court judge threw out McGeady's initial finding of probable cause from last year because he failed to give Christie's lawyer an opportunity to participate in the hearing. She ordered a new hearing, which eventually led to McGeady's decision.

"The judge is violating the law, pure and simple," said Brian Murray, a spokesman for Christie's office. "This concocted claim was investigated for three months by the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office, which summarily dismissed it, after concluding that the very same evidence relied upon again by this judge was utter nonsense."

McGeady set March 10 as the date for Christie to answer a criminal summons, though it seems unlikely the governor will appear in court. REUTERS

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Ice Cube wants you to smell the roses

Ice Cube plays a pissed-off teacher who challenges a colleague (Charlie Day) to an after-school tussle in "Fist Fight." BOB MAHONEY

The rapper-actor says we're going to need a lot of comedies these days, like his new "Fist Fight."

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

You can't even go see silly comedies these days without being reminded of real-world headaches. In "Fist Fight," Ice Cube plays an eternally pissed-off high school teacher who challenges a flustered colleague (Charlie Day) to an after-school fight. It's wacky, it's vulgar — and it can't help but remind us that the American school system is going to be even worse shape once Betsy DeVos gets her hands on it. When we talk to the rapper/movie star, 47, we can't help asking him to weigh in on what's going on outside the multiplexes.

I get the feeling that comedies are going to be really necessary to get us through the next four to eight years.
I hope so. We're gonna need to remember who we are. A lot of things can roll downhill to make us forget who we are. We've got to fight against that with everything we've got.

It's important for our mental health to remember that not everything's bleak.
If you're looking for it, you can find something wrong with anything. People can find something wrong with a birthday cake, you know? Sometimes it's about smelling the roses, man. It's not about planting new roses all the time. It's about looking around, seeing what we've got and realizing it's not that bad — or not as bad as we make it sound all the time.

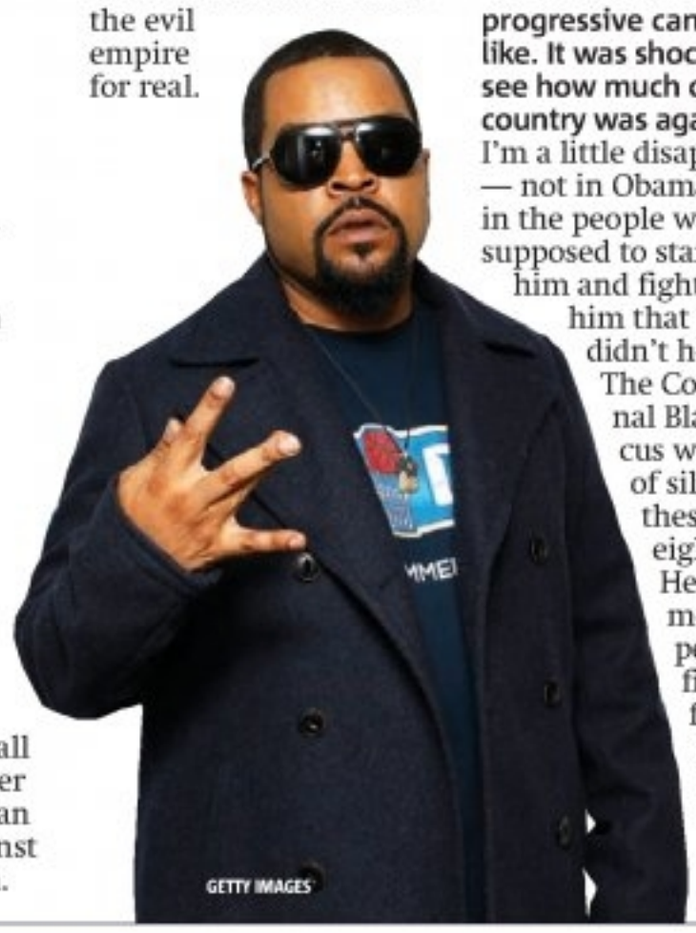
Keeping it real

Even a comedy like "Fist Fight" actually reflects real-life problems. It's ultimately about broken school systems, underpaid teachers, undereducated kids.
It's a crazy, wacky movie that's politically incorrect in most parts, but it does have this undertone of reality. That's what makes the movie hold together, so it's not two hours of me chasing Campbell [played by Charlie Day] around the school. It's grounded but crazy, too.

Strickland's not just a bully. He really cares about education and is pissed kids don't know basic history.
I remember seeing guys like that in school. I'm pretty sure they're gone now. Because you just can't do the things you need to do sometimes to get respect as a teacher. I'm pretty sure you shouldn't be breaking students' laptops with bats, but those cellphones can damn sure get Babe Ruthed out of the damn classroom. [Laughs]

The protests seem to be working.
Now we've all got a common enemy. We all know who Darth Vader is. [Laughs] Now we can form an alliance against that kind of direction.

We have multiple Darth Vaders now. We have Steve Bannon, too.
Without a doubt. That's the evil empire for real.



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The last eight years gave us a look at what an America that's tolerant and progressive can look like. It was shocking to see how much of the country was against that.
I'm a little disappointed — not in Obama, but in the people who were supposed to stand with him and fight with him that you didn't hear from. The Congressional Black Caucus was kind of silent over these last eight years. He needed more people fighting for him and not just waiting for him to do it all.

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Ice Cube and Charlie Day are gonna tussle in "Fist Fight." WARNER BROS. PICTURES

"Fist Fight"

Director: Richie Keen
Stars: Charlie Day, Ice Cube
Rating: R

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Imagine going to see the new, silly comedy in which Ice Cube wants to beat up little Charlie Day. You know they play fellow teachers. You know their tussle will happen at day's end. Still, you assume a light entertainment set at a high school will provide a kind of safe space — a therapeutic respite from the constant John Wick-style headshots that are news notifications hitting your phone.

Then you see that our protagonists aren't just stupid man-children. They're tragic figures. Their school is underfunded and poorly managed. Their paychecks are lousy. The kids don't pay attention. And all of a sudden — maybe while Day is being dragged around on a rope attached to a horse that's high on meth (long story) — you're thinking about Betsy DeVos, our incoming education secretary, and how she's going to make this hot mess worse.

This was never how "Fist Fight" wanted to be seen. It's not a political film, nor even a "movie of the moment." It's a distraction with a pinky toe in reality. And to its credit, it knows how to distract. Most of the jokes are stupid, puerile and gleefully so.

Campbell's attempts to stop the fight aren't always inspired, and the movie loses some gas en route to its non-anti-climax of a smackdown. But it's always fast on its feet, and always has capable ringers, including Jillian Bell and Tracy Morgan. "Fist Fight" winds up passing its modest assignment: It takes your mind off everything — except for Betsy DeVos. MATT PRIGGE

"The Great Wall"

Director: Zhang Yimou
Stars: Matt Damon, Jing Tian
Rating: PG-13

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The good news about "The Great Wall" is that it's a big, dumb monster movie. That's good because it could have been something else. The ads inadvertently sell this lumbering behemoth as another case of whitewashing — a tale of ancient China that inexplicably stars Matt Damon. Remember Tom Cruise's name weirdly hovering over the words "The Last Samurai"?

But it's not another one of those. It's a positive example of international teamwork. It was only a matter of time before Hollywood and China combined forces for a semiawkward mash-up like "The Great Wall."

Damon looks either blandly badass or just plain lost as William, a globe-trotting bandit who finds himself at the Great Wall of China — just in time for it to be attacked, over and over, by a horde of green reptile things from space. Luckily, William's not the sole hero. He merely winds up helping out the mighty army's top brass, including a commander (Jing Tian) who also happens to be a woman.

Damon's name may be on the marquee, but he's not "The Great Wall's" true star. That would be director Zhang Yimou, the maker of gorgeous spectacles like "Hero" and "House of Flying Daggers." He fills the film with color-coded extras, seamless effects and action that's both kinetic and poetic. As a shotgun wedding between similar-but-different nations, "The Great Wall" can be misshapen, but its best bits "feel" more Chinese than Hollywood. It delivers on the pitch of "Starship Troopers," only in ancient China." MP

We swear that "The Great Wall," featuring Matt Damon fighting monsters in ancient China, is not another whitewashing job. IASIN BOLAND

"A Cure for Wellness"

Director: Gore Verbinski
Stars: Dane DeHaan, Jason Isaacs
Rating: R

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It certainly sounds great: Someone convinced a Hollywood studio to make a weirdo horror film that runs almost as long as "Goodfellas." Dane DeHaan plays a cynical, Nicorette-gobbling Wall Street stooge named Lockhart. He's been sent to retrieve his boss from a truly creepy spa, tucked in the Swiss Alps. The wealthy, aging tenants have either been coaxed or drugged (or both) into a life of perpetual ease. Lockhart can't help but think something's afoot.

"A Cure for Wellness" is in no hurry to give us an answer, but the protracted running time teems with icky distractions. Director Gore Verbinski (of three "Pirates of the Caribbean" films) prowls the bowels of his sets like a kid in a decaying, haunted candy store. It's a world of mysterious corridors and secret rooms, of endless creaks and rusty old-timey medical devices. This is a movie to get lost in, not just sit and stare at, waiting impatiently for the big revelations and purple WTF insanities.

It's fun being jostled about by "A Cure for Wellness," but it's the kind of fun that rings hollow. Verbinski makes no bones about ripping off others. At one point he even steals — lock, stock and barrel — the most famous moment from "Marathon Man." He does it well — if anything, his version is more visceral — but that tells you everything about Verbinski. Verbinski's no mere peerless technician, but it will take something stranger than "A Cure for Wellness" to suggest he's more than slightly more. MP

Gore Verbinski's epic horror number "A Cure for Wellness" offers Mia Goth and lots of eels. TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

A creature won't let a man leave the remote island on which he's trapped in the Oscar-nominated "The Red Turtle." SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

"The Red Turtle"

Director: Michael Dudok de Wit
Genre: Animation
Rating: PG

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There's something off about the latest from Studio Ghibli. Not in a bad way. Like anything from the beloved Japanese animation house ("My Neighbor Totoro," "Spirited Away," etc.), it's lovely, serene, refreshingly and beautifully hand drawn. It is, however, their first feature not written and directed in-house. In fact, it comes from a Dutch filmmaker, Michael Dudok de Wit, who ever so slightly tweaks their style to his own means. It's a fusion of cultures that keeps some things, changes others but still delivers the Ghibli goods.

The story is a deceptively simple one: An unnamed man, who speaks only in the occasional grunt, washes ashore on a tiny, remote island. His only companion proves to be a burdensome one: a large red turtle, who destroys the many bamboo rafts he uses as escape. Eventually he can't take it anymore and he flips it over — then, when guilt strikes him, can't muster the strength to flip it back. He soon finds that the turtle's body is missing, replaced by a mysterious woman. They marry, have a kid and never leave.

Is this magical realism? A dream? Or should we do something better: resist interpretation entirely, and accept that the film dwells in the space between two extremes? Unhurried, placid and, yes, a needed respite from the outside world, "The Red Turtle" keeps one foot in the real and the other in the super-real. You can read this gorgeous and soothing semifantasy as an honest and gutting look at one man's bottomless guilt — or you could bend your logical mind and accept it as that and so much more. MP

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Hailey Knox IRL

The teen dream talks Charlie Puth and her full-length album.

HEATHER ALTERISIO
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Social-media sensation Hailey Knox turns just 18 next month, but the teen singer-songwriter is spending her February on the road with husband-wife folk band Us the Duo. She's not rattled, though. Knox already had her first brush with fame while on tour with Charlie Puth in late 2016, and the "Awkward" singer admits she's still a bit starstruck from the experience.

"It was surreal because I listen to him on the radio," she gushes, remembering their first sold-out date at New York City's Beacon Theatre. "It was literally a dream."

Currently nominated for iHeartRadio's Social Media Star Award, the YouNow celeb calls in from the road to discuss her upcoming album, how to stay healthy while on the road and how she keeps up with her family while away from home.

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Knox says the biggest concern of being on tour is staying healthy. "The travel takes a toll on you, definitely," she explains. It's all about staying hydrated, getting enough sleep, remembering to eat and preserving her voice. "If you get sick, it's the end."

Before each show, Knox practices her voice warmups, but she admits she still gets shy. "They get pretty annoying. I would hide in a corner so I don't annoy everybody," she giggles.

"I get pretty nervous too, so I try to calm myself down," adding that she meditates to reduce her jitters.

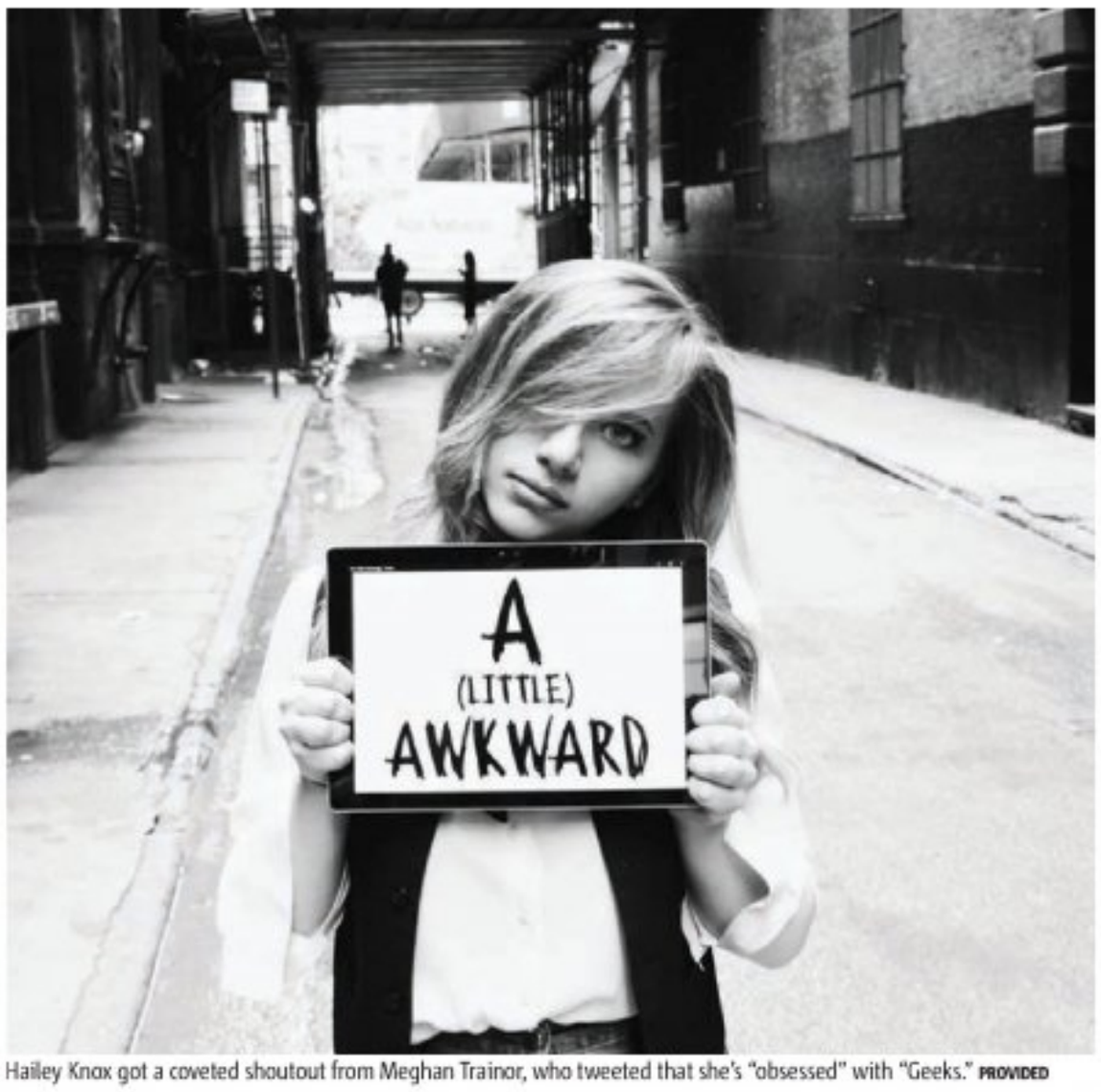
Family is everything

Knox jokes about her social media presence, saying her mom loves it and if anything, encourages it. "I'll send her some photos and she'll post them, saying 'Hailey's in Canada now!'" On tour, her mom and her sister are only a "FaceTime call away," supporting her in every way they can.

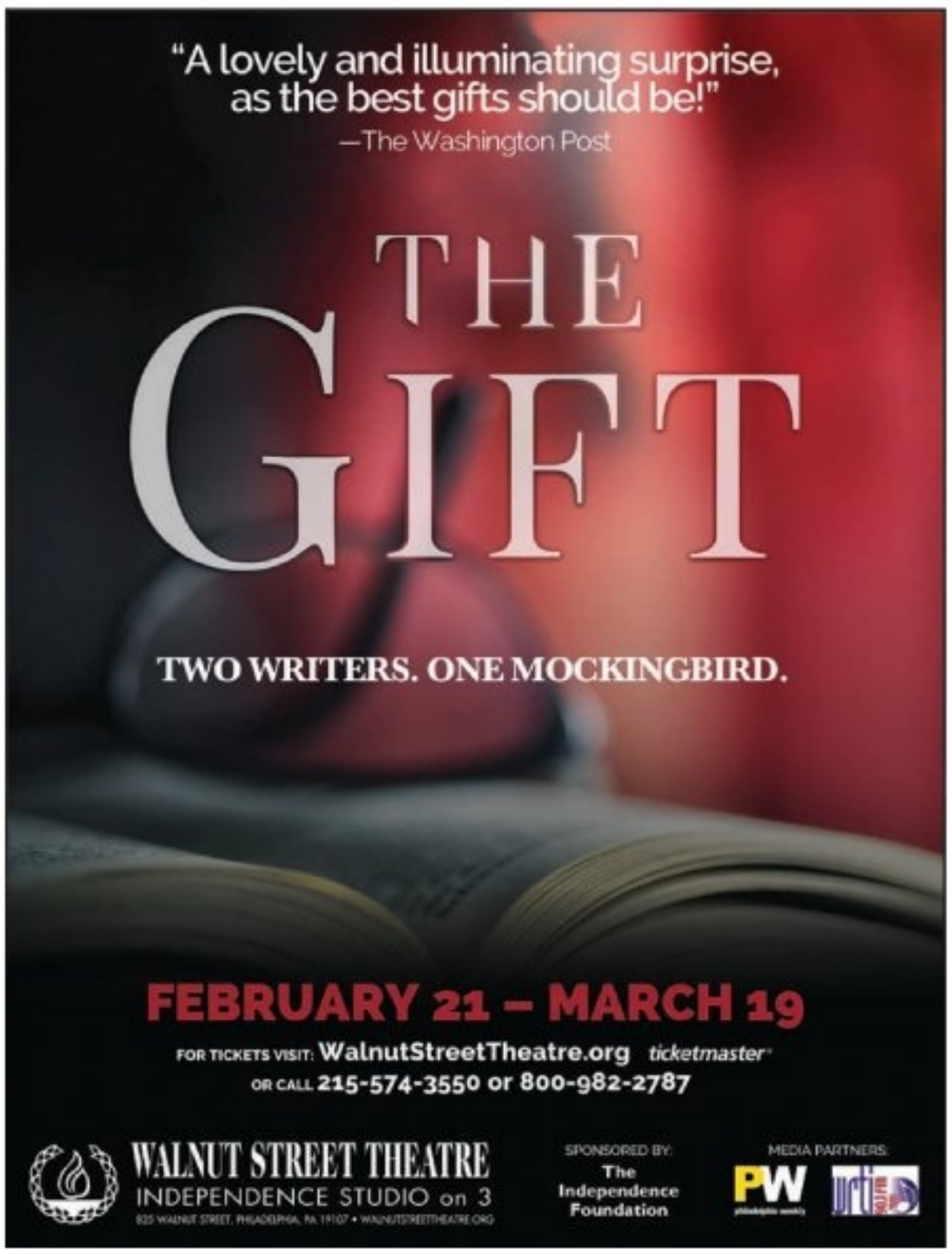
Meanwhile, Knox's father will join her on tour. "He kind of acts as like security guard in a way," she adds, "making sure things are going well."

Ode to the awkward teens

Knox made her debut with EP titled "A Little Awkward" last June. And, as the name implies, her lyrics for songs like "Geeks" and "My Worst Enemy" stemmed from typical high school awkwardness and teenage struggles. While details and a release date for her follow-up full-length are up in the air, Knox assures us something exciting is in the works: "I can't wait to get this stuff out there!"



Hailey Knox got a coveted shoutout from Meghan Trainor, who tweeted that she's "obsessed" with "Geeks." PROVIDED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Toby Leonard Moore discusses Season 2 of 'Billions'

The Australian actor plays Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney Bryan Connerty.

JENNIFER LOGUE
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Toby Leonard Moore may play an American, but he's actually Australian. PROVIDED

The Wall Street-inspired drama "Billions" returns to Showtime for its second season Sunday, Feb. 19. The popular series explores the dark side of extreme wealth and pits high-finance heavy-hitter Bobby "Axe" Axelrod (Damian Lewis) against U.S. Attorney Chuck Rhoades (Paul Giamatti). We got to chat with Toby Leonard Moore, who pins down corporate criminals alongside Giamatti's character as Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney Bryan Connerty. Moore tells us what we can expect from the new season, mastering the American accent and why money isn't everything.

Why does society look at breaking a law differently when it comes to high finance? What makes Axe different from someone who physically robs a bank, for example?
I think it's that idea of ultimate wealth. I guess there's some kind of glamor that we attach to it.

So many people dream of having a ton of money, but at a certain point, it can become quite a burden, as "Billions" has shown us.

It has to become a burden at a certain point. More money, more problems. It's that kind of idea. I heard a podcast or read an article or something the other day, I can't remember a source, but I think someone said, after about $300,000, there's no difference in happiness. If you have enough money to know that the rent's going to be paid on time, apparently there's no change to it. You don't need that yacht. If you choose to be happy, you'll be happy. It's pretty simple.

For people who may not have seen the show, tell us about your character.
I play Bryan Connerty, who's an assistant attorney to Paul Giamatti's Chuck Rhoades. Assistant attorneys are kind of like real-life superheroes. They spend their lives working 20-hour days for not as much pay as they would get if they worked in the private sector. He's constantly questioning who's in the right and who's in the wrong. I think the audience is doing that as well from week to week.

What's it like working with Paul Giamatti so closely?
A joy, a delight. I loved coming to work. He's incredibly generous and hysterically funny. Days that I don't work, though everybody loves a day off work, sometimes I get a little depressed when I don't get to go to work. I wonder what shenanigans those guys are getting up to today. Every day is like being in a classroom. I've learned so much. It's a real privilege.

The trailer for Season 2 is intense. It's sizzling. What can we expect?
I think our show is so intricate and so detailed and it's such a specific world. Season 1 was great, but there was a lot to establish. So in Season 2, what you're going to see is all of the things set up, pay off. It's really exciting.

What do you do when you're not on set?
It's funny. I get asked this question a lot. I'm really lucky because my love is acting and I get paid to do what I love. It all sort of revolves around that. If I'm not shooting something, then I'll be writing something or watching something or reading something. It just all revolves around the thing I love to do most.

You're an Australian playing an American. Is our accent exotic to you?
I love the American accent. I really do. It's incredibly versatile. I'm not sure how many Americans consider that, to live in a country where you can drive 100 miles and find a different dialect. There are always slight differences and I love that. The other thing is that I think every Australian has an American accent that they are able to put on because we're surrounded by American television, movies and music since we were kids. The only reason why Americans aren't great at the Australian accent is because they're not exposed to it. I think if they were, it would be a different thing. We grow up with it.

The second season of "Billions" premieres Sunday, Feb. 19 on Showtime.

Paul Giamatti as Chuck Rhoades and Toby Leonard Moore as Bryan Connerty. JEFF NEUMANN/SHOWTIME

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Ralph Lauren takes us on an enchanted fantasy

Ralph Lauren is letting you shop the runway — literally.

TINA CHADHA
@TinaatMetro
tina.chadha@metro.us

For his New York Fashion Week show, the designer once again turned to his Madison Avenue flagship store, this time transforming the space into a greenhouse complete with a living wall. But we're not just talking some pretty vines and air plants; this is Ralph Lauren, the man who shut down Madison Avenue last season. Every surface on the first and second floors of the massive store was covered in gorgeous white orchids — 100,000 or so! — pretty greenery and cute animatronic butterflies.

The installation transformed the store into a stunning enchanted forest — the perfect backdrop to showcase Lauren's clothes for the woman who has "a nomadic spirit and exotic sophistication."

And what does this globe-trotter want to wear? Silky gold dresses; leopard-print wedge heels; bold, tribal-inspired necklaces; chic beige blazers and show-stopping jewel-toned gowns.

The best part of this elaborate setup is that from now through today, the public can pop into 888 Madison Ave. and buy the collection straight from its runway habitat. Shoppers can admire the living wall, or you know, snap a selfie in front of the most gorgeous backdrop at NYFW.

Ralph Lauren Spring 2017 MILK DIGITAL

Free wine at Hawthorne's Cafe this Saturday

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Oenophiles, if you're looking to expand your wine horizons this weekend, mosey on down to Hawthorne's Cafe Saturday for a tutored tasting from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in honor of National Drink Wine Day. The Bella Vista restaurant will have Michele Alwine from the Wine Merchant educating guests and there will be discounted bottles available for purchase.

Owner Chris Fetfatzes says, "We love being known for our delicious food, but Hawthorne's [Cafe] also has a serious focus on beverages. We've worked really hard to curate dozens of delicious vintages, and we've developed a reputation as a serious beverage destination in Philly over the last few years."

So much wine, so little time. PROVIDED

He adds: "We're really looking forward to having Ms. Alwine help demystify the winemaking process."

How could this possibly get any better? It's all free, people. Oh, and there will be snacks.

Hawthorne's Cafe is located at 736 S. 11th St. For more information, visit: hawthornecafe.com.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell, to satisfy lien of the owner, by public internet sale via **www.StorageTreasures.com** for competitive bidding to begin on **February 9th, 2017 at 11:00 AM** and conclude **February 22nd, 2017 at 4:00 PM** via the Compass Self Storage located at **12 E Oregon Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19148**

Unit # 1101 Matthew Pierre Bell • Unit # 1138 Atiyalati Dorn

Unit # 1147 Richard Valles

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION 2/28/17, 9AM AT SUPERIOR MOVING & STORAGE, INC. 5101 UNRUH AVENUE, PHILA, PA 19135, PERSONAL PROPERTY BELONGING TO:

Elizabeth Bennett, Robert Bennett, Monica Bole, Neil Cohen, Bobbi Cooperstein, Carol DeNatale, Michael DiColl, Teresa Fanelli, Dan Farrell, Marlene Frazier, Marci Fromberg, Alex Goulandris, Shannon Jones, Jim Kane, Alex Katsef, Nancy Kawola, Helina Korotasz, David Lanahan, Fran Matus, Gwendolyn Moore, Randy Myer, Michele Palermo, Jonas Palmer, Shanday Perkins, Suzette Price, Monica Purvines, Chris Quigley, Henry Reynolds, Tequella Rouse, Fran Scalzo, Daniel Simmons, Kelly Stephens, Kelly Straub, Carlos Torres, George Walker, Terrence Wilder, Rosemary Hill, Terese McKinley, and Colleen Shortall.

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Property contained in the following units located at 3503 N. B St will be sold via online auction at STORAGETREASURES.COM on February 21, 2017 at 11:00 A.M., to the highest bidder to satisfy the owners lien for rent under 73 p.s. 1901 et. seq. Auction is with reserve, 21st Century Storage reserves the right to set the minimum bids and refuse bids. Cash or credit card ONLY. Contents must be paid for 2/21 and removed within 48 hours.

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Michelle Mercado H717
Angel Reyes 1811
Carla Crenshaw K107
Chontay Ervin L147
Inna Colon L210
Brandon Sheppard M109
Javier Rodriguez M130
Javier Rodriguez M137
Edith Coates P402
Marisol Williams P419
Noelia I Colon P421
Yineska Lebron R641
Ebonie Traylor S116
Jessica Bonano T823
Courtney Smith T857

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Purchases must be paid at the time with Credit Card or Cash. All Purchases are sold within 72 hours of the time of sale. A $100.00 Cash clean up deposit is required until all items in the unit are removed from the premises and verified by manager on duty. Sale subject to cancellation up to the time of sale, company reserves the right to refuse any online bids.
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#1504-William Rodriguez • #3333-KATHERINE CRUZ • #3537-Veronica Fossie #3326-Christina Harrison • #1121-Theodore Norman • #2426-MALACHI OWENS #2701-Richard Rowe • #2704-Crystal Williams

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#1203-Jeffrey Large, #2808-Margaret Newell

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Get up close and personal with T. rex. ALBERT LEE

Roar into the weekend

Mingle with dinosaurs at Jurassic World at the Franklin Institute

ALBERT LEE
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Welcome to "Jurassic World: The Exhibition" at the Franklin Institute. Created by Universal Studios, Imagine Exhibition and Creature Technology Co., the dinosaurs from the big screen have invaded the City of Brotherly Love.

Since making its North American debut at the Franklin Institute in November, "Jurassic World" is quickly becoming one of their most successful traveling exhibitions in the last 10 years. When it first opened in Melbourne, Australia, Larry Dubinski, president and CEO of the Franklin Institute, knew it would be a hit in Philadelphia:

"The Franklin has had a great track record of debuting and attracting world class exhibitions including 'King Tut,' 'Cleopatra' and 'Body Worlds' to name a few. 'Jurassic World' is a brand people know and love. This exhibit helps to bolster our mission and help add to the cultural landscape of Philadelphia."

Once you arrive at the "island" (via a ferry, of course) you'll be treated to a VIP guest experience led by a virtual park ranger through multiple face to face encounters with these massive reptiles including a Brachiosaurus, a Tyrannosaurus rex and a never before seen raptor training paddock that was not included in the original exhibition. Along the way, you'll also see how scientists are harnessing dinosaur DNA at the Hammond Creation Center.

The exhibit is proving to be a magical experience for visitors. "I was escorting a mother and her young child throughout the exhibit, and he kept asking if the dinosaurs were real," Dubinski notes. "I kept looking at the mother for a response. She didn't say a word."

Children aren't the only ones in awe of the animatronics. Michelangelo Ilagan, who watched the entire "Jurassic" series at the movie theaters, couldn't believe the technology has reached this degree of realism.

The dinosaurs may be the main attraction, but according to Roseanne Capaccio, his 4-year-old son Dominic found something at the exhibition even more exciting. "He loved that there was a life-size pile of dinosaur poop you could touch." A roaring good time indeed.

If you go

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Sixers at the break: Whose stock is up, whose is down after first half?

The Sixers have shown they have quite a few "keepers" on the team after years of futility.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

With just 21 wins (11 more than last year) and an inconsistent — and often unhealthy product on the floor — it's hard to really assess the Sixers' progress on a day to day basis.

But with the team on the cusp of a nine-day break for the NBA All-Star weekend, what better time to take a look at who has impressed, and who has regressed the most on the up-and-coming 76ers:

Stock is rising

Dario Saric

The Sixers' other Rookie of the Year candidate might actually have a valid argument for the award as Joel Embiid continues to sit with a knee injury. In the Sixers' five games before the break, all without Embiid, Saric averaged 18.6 points per game and grabbed 11 rebounds in each of the last two. He's been a spark plug for the team and plays with hustle and grit — a sure future fan favorite.

Joel Embiid

Which brings us to the ultimate fan favorite. Even having sat since Jan. 17, the gigantic rookie has not only taken the city, social media and the NBA by storm but he's also posted incredible numbers in limited minutes. He's scored 20.2 points per game whole getting nearly eight rebounds and more than two blocks per game in about 25 minutes per contest.

T.J. McConnell

The Sixers' undrafted rookie has hit two game-winning jumpers and is the only player aside from Rajon Rondo to average more assists per game than points. But when he does score, the points are clutch. He seems to be a true NBA point guard — one that came out of nowhere and was actually the subject of trade buzz as the deadline nears.

Stock is steady

Nerlens Noel

The Sixers' defensive-minded center was on the outs this offseason, questioning whether the team had a real plan for its bigs and sitting on the bench after a summer injury. But he's played his way back into Philly's future plans and appears to be the big man best suited to work alongside Embiid.

Robert Covington

Philly's lanky 3-point maven has become a defensive juggernaut under Brett Brown's tutelage, showing he can guard the opposing team's best player and contribute on both sides of the floor.

Sam Hinkie

The former GM who left in a blaze of 13-page glory seems to be back in Philly fans' favor of late, as the Sixers appear to be slowly living up to the promise Hinkie made when he started a three-year tankathon.

Will the Sixers make a move to actually jettison one of their big men? ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Stock is falling

Jahlil Okafor

Poor Jah. He went from the Sixers' center of the future and an offensive powerhouse to a middling prospect that no one wants. He was kept off the team plane to Orlando and Charlotte earlier this week before rejoining the team in Boston. A trade went from imminent to unlikely. What do the Sixers do now?

Bryan Colangelo

Hinkie's replacement seems to be in over his head, avoiding or perhaps lying to the Philadelphia media and unable to figure out what to do with Jahlil Okafor and the Sixers' other trade assets.

Ben Simmons

This is not a comment on Simmons' talent and future as an NBA player. The contrary — it is an indictment on the Sixers as an organization. The first overall pick from last June appears healthy and on the mend from preseason foot surgery. But he has yet to even play in 5-on-5 drills.

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First half of Sixers' season ran full gamut of emotions

The 76ers exceeded expectations while also presenting no shortage of drama before the NBA All-Star break.

ANDY JASNER
@AndyJasner
sports@metro.us

Sixers fans hope there will be a few more electric, memorable moments in the season's second half. GETTY IMAGES

The 76ers were trending upward in every way possible.

They won 10 games in January, the same amount as they compiled all of last season.

They featured potential Rookie of the Year Joel Embiid, who was dazzling the fan base with an array of offensive moves and defensive prowess on a nightly basis.

They seemed to capture the city, which desperately needs a franchise to cling to given the current state of the professional sports landscape.

After three seasons of tanking and just 47 wins, this was a refreshing change. There was excitement surrounding the Sixers and the buzz was evident inside the Wells Fargo Center.

Somewhere along the way, however, the Sixers got lost. Their momentum stalled and fans are once again becoming frustrated.

Embiid missed his 11th straight game Wednesday night in an eight-point loss at Boston. A bone bruise — actually a partially torn meniscus as it turns out — has "The Process" sidelined indefinitely. There doesn't appear to be an exact timetable for Embiid's return and that's frustrating considering he has already missed two full seasons.

While injured, Embiid was seen dancing at a Meek Mill concert. Normally, that would be fine. Embiid is a young pro athlete who's entitled to a personal life. When your franchise cornerstone has a knee injury, it's just a bad public image.

Prized No. 1 overall pick Ben Simmons has yet to practice 5-on-5. Coach Brett Brown has said that Simmons needs at least five 5-on-5 practices before he'll be ready to play in a regular season game. In other words, it doesn't look as if Simmons is close. Are the Sixers being too cautious? Fans are clamoring to see Embiid and Simmons together on the court. Waiting until next season seems to be overcautious.

Now comes the Jahlil Okafor saga. The former No. 3 overall pick from Duke actually sat out because of trade rumors. Players' names get tossed around all the time at the trade deadline. Nothing new here. Okafor returned to play at Boston, which is exactly what should be happening.

The Sixers had won three straight games before the setback against the Celtics, dropping them to 21-35 and five-and-a-half games out of the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Through the soap opera, Brown continues to be a marvelous teacher. Point guard T.J. McConnell is one of the most improved players in the league. Robert Covington, who recently was being booed for every missed shot by the fans, has learned to drive to the basket and become a solid defender. Nerlens Noel's jump shot is steadily getting better. The players are scrapping and clawing every night and their energy is contagious.

But they need to regain the momentum they earned in January. Embiid and Simmons must play together.

The Sixers don't play again until after the All-Star break when the Wizards arrive. There's still time to salvage the fourth season of the Brown era. The Sixers have plenty of assets in the offseason beginning with the draft.

The final third of the 2016-17 season is a crucial period. They can't derail their progress.

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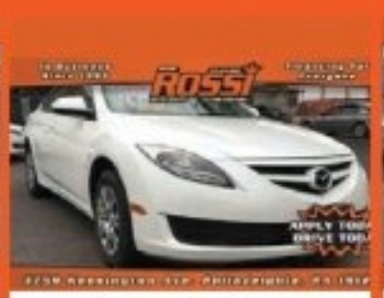
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PHILLIES- AND EAGLES-HATING CHRISTIE HAS ABSOLUTELY NO CLUE

OPINION

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy

Chris Christie is waging war on Philly sports fans. GETTY IMAGES

We live in the age of "alternative facts."

And outgoing New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie has unleashed another fury of baseless, thoughtless, and yes, factless hatred on Philadelphia sports once again.

In today's political climate, where so many people can get away with so much, a media that searches for the truth has never been more important.

So now to Christie.

Appearing on the New York sports network SNY, Christie said of Phillies fans: "The Phillies suck. Let's just start with that. They're from Philadelphia. They're an awful team. They're an angry, bitter fan base and it's not safe for civilized people to go to Citizens Bank Park if you want to root for the other team. Ya gotta believe what? Ya gotta believe we're awful people!"

Let's break it down.

"The Phillies suck." — Well, they do, but only in the standings. They finished second to last in the NL East last year because they are rebuilding. Every team rebuilds. The Yankees and Mets have rebuilt during periods of time too. It's how sports work. The Yankees missed the playoffs so do they suck? The Mets didn't win a World Series do they? Christie says the team sucks without mentioning a single player, statistic, or argument as to why.

"They're an angry, bitter fan base and it's not safe for civilized people to go to Citizens Bank Park if you want to root for the other team." — That's a vast, insulting generalization. Every fan base has die-hards, and some of those diehards take things too far. More than 1.9 million fans saw a game at Citizens Bank Park in 2016. Philly has had some bad publicity due to some bad apples. But not safe? There is absolutely no evidence to suggest CBP is unsafe.

Christie has some kind of beef with Philly sports fans. And it makes zero sense. He is the governor of a state full of them.

In the midst of a Donald Trump-like rant a few months ago, Christie said a similar thing about Eagles fans.

"Now Eagles fans I understand it from a little more because the Eagles do suck and they've sucked for a long time," Christie said onthe "Boomer and Carton Show." "And their fans are generally angry, awful people."

Christie is the angry one. It's one thing to insult opposing fans in the heat of a trying moment, a big game or frustrating stretch. But to do it for pretty much no reason during spring training — or after the NFL's regular season?

Christie is a shameless Cowboys fan, and a right-wing Republican. Neither gives Christie the right to make sweeping generalizations about people he doesn't like.

Ironically, it is Christie himself in trouble with the law, not Phillies or Eagles fans. A result of his "Bridge-gate" scandal, where he allegidly caused a traffic jam on the George Washington Bridge to inconvenience a political rival, the case against Christie is moving forward in the court system.

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Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Self Storage Act, Pennsylvania Statues, 73, Chapter 26, 1901 et seq,. A Public Auction Will take Place on **2/23/17** at the below listed Public Storage Facilities for the follow units/Tenants. The Contents of which shall satisfy the Owners Lien. **Public Storage Located At, 2700 Grant Ave. Philadelphia PA 19114 at 11:00 AM (215) 698-8319.**

TOM SLACK JR, Renee Johnson, Janeen Milton, Nakema Robinson-Morales, Michael Gleba, Michele Dwyer, Benita Ashley, Gus Burgmann, Linda Fillmon, Drew Rice, Russell Brown, Teressa Felder, Shahana Klingenberg, Shawnia Walton, Iris Tolchinsky, Clement Hipple, Nura Ozdinar, Michael Grosswald, Jerome Walcott Jr, Michael Kuhn Jr, Joseph Meade, Amber Poliszczuk, James Markee Jr

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Tricia Foy, Alexander Yacob, Matt Cannon, Roland Clough, Julie Moss, Angela Young, Elizabeth Thomas, Jennifer Miller, Aleksandra Andreyeva, Harry Collins, Kenneth Haines, Maria Montano, Alexandra Medina, Somerton Center, Christopher Cannon, Steven Markov, Shannon Augustyn

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Marie Powers, Karen Iacovelli, Eugene Beaddy, Angelique Leiber, Kerry Wedemeyer, Thomas Carney, Michelle Macker, Scott Scarpiello, Edward Todd 3rd, Steven Posten Jr, Deanna Bembury, John Dasilva, George Schiefer, William Ritchey

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1282 - Kogan, Val • 1340 - Cooley, Kim

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1012 - Kopecki, Lisa • 2010 - Bullock, Knowle • 3054 - Momme, Scott
3177 - Brockway, Melanie • 3191 - Garnett, Bruce • C1016 - Thomsen, Daniel
D1013 - Music, Jaz • D1033 - Chendorain Jr, Barry J

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A102 - Pierce, Terrence • B421 - Hughes, Tinina • C645 - Covington Carroll, Thelma • D720 - Pierce, Terrence
D735 - Dawson, Kiera • D820 - Green, Nafisha • E1052 - Tomlin, Natasha • E942 - Fischer, Asia
F1128 - CROMARTIE, BARBARA • F1249 - Bryant, Tamara • G1414 - Baddie, Kamilah
H1624 - Woodbury, Tiera • H1647 - Mickens, Gwendolyn

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C036 - LANDAU, Elias • C085 - Augustine Jr, Joseph
D006 - dolchan, mike • D100 - LANDAU, Elias
D102 - Boccuti, Paul

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C109 - Hargrove, Chandria • E302 - Johnson, Latasha
F374 - Glover, Leah

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Jeffrey McGurk • Eileen Chuck • Brenda M. Pierre-Woodard
Bernadette Birch • Jennifer Gordon • Steven Kurz • Jacqueline Breslin
Juan Dejesus • Rodney Jones

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Shawn Kane, Reth Lay, Juan Cruz, Jorge Polo, Thomas R Kelly, Jeff Large, Valerie Macready, Richard Blon, Gregory Smith, Jennifer Pugh, Dennis Dougherty, Akeem Nixon, Elizabeth Fox, Zoraida Acevedo, Dimitruis Hull, Courtney Fisher, Cheryl Martinez, Yolanda Jones

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Cora Henley-Bantum, John Malin, Lynn Smoot, Paul Hill, Todros Michael, Terra Davis, Nikole Reid, Keisha Brown, Derrick Young, Matthew Woosley, LASHAWNN MORRIS, Joseph King, Lamont Wagner, Diane Nesbitt, Anthony Fitzhugh, Monique Houston, James Collick, Tahia Forrest, Janet Ayres, MACK TRANSPOTER

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Christina Johnson • Tika Nobles • Terri Donnell • Sherine Martin • Ryan Mamillan

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Yvonne Howard, Ginny Garcia, Deborah Williams, LaTonya McEachin, Cathleen Young, Ann White, Stephanie Klink, Christine Knight, Rashidah Robinson, Jamie Smalls, Michael Coleman, Adrienne Morgan, Vicky Cordero, Juliette Moncher, Angelo Mitchell, Brittany Logan, Crista Smietana, Isamar Torres, Kristina Lasky, Justin Dailey, Ivyanna Wrubel, Nicole Yeager, Larry Malden, Rachael Collier, Errol Oldacre, Kerri Mcwright, Nelson Soto Jr, Kenneth Johnson, Angelica Rosario, William Tippie Jr, Amin Kennerly, Nicole Coley, Kimiko Poe

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Shaun Birton, John Stricker, Kathy Fulton, Gloria Polanco, Nelly Lopez-Cedeno, William Millman, Joan Petroski, Kristy Riebow, Geoffrey Solter, Patrick Lewis, Mallory Mizvitowicz, Steve Roccagrande, Anthony Farma

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CHANGE OF NAME NOTICE

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, January term, 2017, No. 3948.

Notice is hereby given that on February 8, 2017, the petition of Hetal Prakashchandra Shah was filed, praying for a decree to change her name to Hetal Shah Dodeja.

The Court has fixed courtdate, February 24, 2017 at 12:00 PM, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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Across
1 Cool dude, in old slang
7 Mo. fractions
10 Popcorn buys
14 Get some air
15 Contented murmur
16 Baroness Karen
17 Fit to eat
18 Good buddy
19 The facts
20 Type of boxer
23 "Catch-22" lead
26 NASA counterpart
27 Some take a gander
28 Grimace
29 Nasty laugh
30 PSAT takers
31 Not even
32 Address part
33 Ladybugs
37 Gallic nose
38 Pizarro's quest
39 1040 org.
40 Deviate, as a rocket
41 Bon vivant
43 Gown renters, briefly
44 Dernier –
45 Pumper's pride
46 Your ancestor?
47 Martial –
48 Russian pancakes
51 Sci. class
52 Down mood
53 Like lightning (hyph.)
56 Oscar's cousin
57 Metro RRs
58 Learns to cope
62 Sourdough strikes
63 Frat letter
64 Against
65 Shopping plaza
66 Bellwether's mate
67 Post

Down
1 Rush off
2 Wind up
3 – Beta Kappa
4 Hack
5 Poe's middle name
6 Summer job seeker
7 "– Cannonball"
8 Cause-and-effect law
9 Movie
10 Neatest
11 Meter reading
12 Showers, maybe
13 Aquarium denizen
21 It's left holding the bag
22 Exit
23 Between
24 Calgary Stampede, for one
25 Invasive vine
29 Charters
30 – -built
32 Horror-film menace
33 Chess piece
34 Swimsuit fabric
35 Third planet out
36 Food that's hole-some?
42 Worst-smelling
46 Gift-box filler
47 Rite sites
48 Daffodil or tulip
49 Autumn sign
50 More remote
51 Local ordinance
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54 Monsieur's pate
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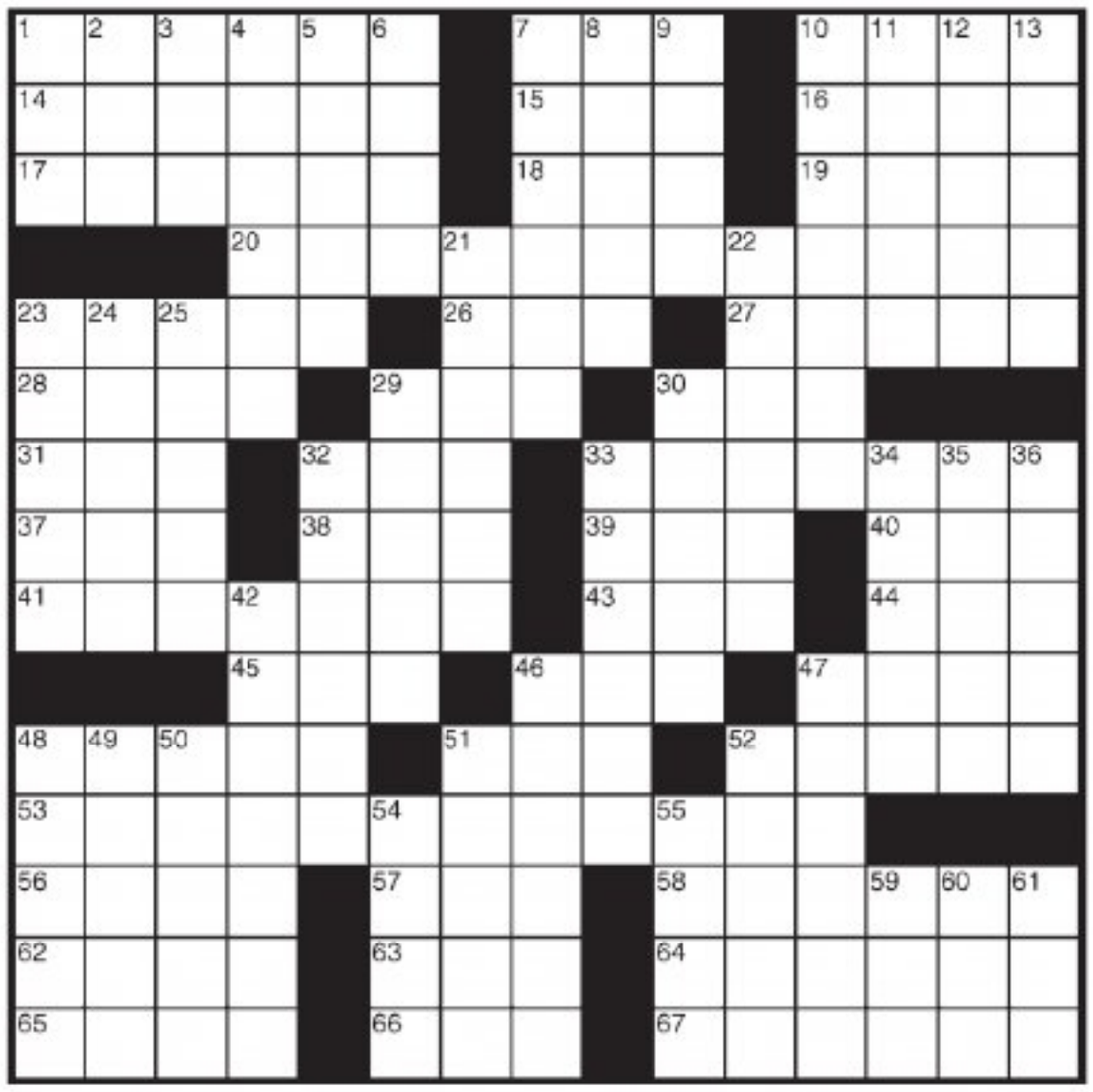
59 Tire pressure meas.
60 Harbor vessel
61 FICA number



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easy

		7	9	4	3			1
3			1					
8				6				
		8	4		6	7		
	2	4				8	5	
		6	8		9	3		
				9				5
					2			3
2			5	1	7	9		

hard

	7				8		6	
	5			7			8	1
8			9					3
	9			6	1			
		6	4	9	3	1		
			8	5			9	
9					2			5
6	8			3			7	
	3		7				1	

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Carefully examine emotional situations before you reveal how you feel. It's important to find out where you stand and to adjust your presentation accordingly.

Taurus Your intuition won't let you down. Trust in yourself and your abilities, not in what someone else is doing. Take the path that you feel most comfortable pursuing.

Gemini You've got all the right moves to reach your personal and professional goals. You will outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Romance will improve your life.

Cancer Excess will cause problems for you. Whether you or someone else is being indulgent, you must protect against injury, accidents and damage to your reputation.

Leo Sign up for physical activities that are challenging and invigorating. Self-improvement is favored and will bring good results if you stick to your regimen.

Virgo Refuse to get involved in someone else's melodrama. Stay focused on what matters to you and make changes that will improve your domestic environment.

Libra A problem with residential services will disrupt your routine. Avoid over-indulgence and don't make unreasonable promises. Choose peace over discord and chaos.

Scorpio You'll be sent mixed signals when dealing with friends and loved ones. Don't hesitate to ask for a confirmation before you agree to someone's iffy plans.

Sagittarius You must use your intellect, not your emotions, when choosing friends or allies. Know the person you are dealing with before you share secrets.

Capricorn Let others make their own mistakes. Don't feel obliged to take part in anything that you find impulsive or irresponsible. Protect your assets.

Aquarius Holding discussions and making suggestions will help matters, but you must add physical force if you want to excel. It's up to you to do the grunt work.

Pisces If you participate in a group effort, you will be praised for your creativity. Don't feel pressured to contribute money if you have offered your time. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

Q	U	O	T	A	■	K	E	P	I	■	C	U	L	T
U	N	S	E	R	■	O	R	A	L	■	A	M	A	H
I	D	L	E	R	■	P	I	L	L	■	E	I	R	E
Z	O	O	M	E	D	■	E	M	I	S	S	A	R	Y
■	■	■	S	A	N	■	S	N	E	A	K	Y	■	■
S	H	E	A	T	H	E	■	O	A	R	■	■	■	■
W	A	L	L	S	■	A	S	T	I	R	■	P	I	P
U	R	L	S	■	O	R	C	A	S	■	R	E	N	E
M	T	S	■	M	U	S	I	C	■	S	A	L	S	A
■	■	■	B	E	T	■	■	I	N	K	J	E	T	S
■	M	O	U	N	D	S	■	T	A	E	■	■	■	■
V	I	C	T	U	A	L	S	■	T	W	A	N	G	S
A	S	E	A	■	T	Y	P	E	■	E	X	A	L	T
L	E	A	N	■	E	L	A	N	■	R	E	V	U	E
E	R	N	E	■	S	Y	N	E	■	S	L	E	E	P

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